

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 4 as follows:

B1 ~~--This Application claims benefit of Japanese Patent Application No.2000-314330, filed~~
in Japan on October 13, 2000, ~~the contents of which are~~ is incorporated by this reference. ~~--~~

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 19 as follows:

~~--~~The light source apparatus for providing illuminating light to the endoscope of this invention comprises:

a light source lamp for generating illuminating light;

a ~~reflection mirror~~ digital micromirror device having a plurality of micromirrors which receives illuminating light generated by the light source lamp and reflects it;

B2 a light converging optical system which directs illuminating light reflected by the ~~reflection mirror~~ plurality of micromirrors to be incident on ~~an illuminating light transmission optical system~~ a light guide introduced in the endoscope; and

a mirror control circuit which determines whether or not illuminating light should impinge on the ~~illuminating light transmission optical system~~ light guide by altering the direction of illuminating light reflected by the ~~reflection mirror~~ plurality of micromirrors of the digital micromirror device, based on an exposure time signal introduced in accordance with the type of an imaging element installed in the endoscope. ~~--~~

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 12 as follows:

B3 ~~Further,~~ the endoscope system for enabling endoscopic observation by providing illuminating light to the endoscope of this invention comprises:

a light source lamp for generating illuminating light;

a ~~reflection mirror~~ digital micromirror device having a plurality of micromirrors which receives illuminating light generated by the light source lamp and reflects it;

~~an illuminating light transmission optical system~~ a light guide capable of transmitting illuminating light installed in the endoscope;

a light converging optical system which directs illuminating light reflected by the ~~reflection mirror~~ plurality of micromirrors of the digital micromirror device to be incident on the ~~illuminating light transmission system~~ light guide;

an imaging element installed in the endoscope;

a circuit for determining the type of the imaging element;

a control signal generating circuit which generates an exposure time control signal responsible for adjusting the exposure time of the imaging element in accordance with the imaging element's type determined by said circuit; and

a mirror control circuit which alters the direction of illuminating light reflected by the ~~reflection mirror~~ plurality of micromirrors of the digital micromirror device dependent on the exposure time control signal generated by the control signal generating circuit, thereby determining whether or not illuminating light should be incident on the ~~illuminating light transmission optical system~~ light guide;